

IDAHO WOMEN'S COMMISSION

SUMMER MEETING

JUNE 21, 2006

BOISE, IDAHO

**Department of Finance Conference Room 120
State Capitol**

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm: Coffee and Juice with Commissioners
In attendance – Fran Dingel, Linda Hurlbutt, Farhana Hibbert,
Amy Taylor, Rayelle Anderson, Jeanne Wride, and Interim
Director: Kitty Kunz

Commission Business Meeting

The minutes of 02/21/06 were read and approved.

Connie Smith, Department of Administration, advised the Commission to post minutes on the website to comply with the Open Meeting Law.

Kitty Kunz, who has been diligently keeping the workings of the Commission organized, suggested the cell phone is no longer needed. Ms. Kunz has been carrying out the Commission business at her residence. Business cards were discussed and those needing new ones need to let Ms. Kunz know.

Governor Risch and his lovely wife Vicky came to the meeting with Barbara Strickfaden, who was scheduled to address the commission.

Governor Risch thanked the women on the Commission for all of the good work they do and apologized for the very tight budget the commission is functioning under. Governor is very supportive of the Idaho Woman's Commission and would like to see it expanded to include more women from throughout the state.

Governor Risch and Mrs. Risch had to leave the meeting due to other commitments.

Barbara Strickfaden spoke with the commission and indicated her support. The 2006 legislative session was a bit hard on the IWC and cut the budget considerable. However, there were funds left in the last year budget and the question was asked if those funds could be held over. It was later decided that we could encumber those funds for the printing of our book. The Commission was

also told that Kitty Kunz would be appointed the new director of the Commission and was given much kudos for all of her hard unpaid volunteer work. In the future Ms. Kunz will receive a salary for her part time work.

The printing of our “Idaho Laws, a Guide for Women and Families” was discussed. A Spanish translation is desperately needed and budget figures were discussed to get this goal accomplished. It was decided the printing should stay in Boise, as it is more central for shipping purposes. There also needs to be a list of where the books are going. Such as Libraries, health care facilities, Correctional facilities and women’s clubs. The Legislature would like to see the funds go towards services. The members of the Commission have a big job ahead in convincing the Legislatures that the work the Women’s Commission does is of value to the state of Idaho.

It was discussed how the Commission could shave the budget. Rayelle Anderson explained how teleprompting could work as well as having the Director travel to different areas for commission meetings.

The topic of, more women on the commission was discussed. Fran Dingel and Linda Hurlbutt were encouraged to write the Governor and request to be re-appointed. The Governor would like a “solid” list of new women to be appointed.

The commission’s work towards the women’s correctional facilities was discussed. Books of all kinds, but of high quality, are always appreciated at the correctional facilities. We spent approximately \$500 for a bookcase and many good used books that we donated to the facility. This project needs to be expanded as it serves such a need for good reading materials for those incarcerated. Book donations are always appreciated as long as the books are of high moral quality.

Some ideas of how the state monies could be used were, help with GED’s, a legal fund to help with legal fees, soliciting pro-bono legal aid, scholarships for women, work counseling and small business counseling. Rayelle Anderson suggested our goal should be to “get out and empower women.”

It was discussed how the women on the Commission need to lobby the Legislatures before the next Legislative session. It needs to be very clear what the Idaho Woman’s Commission is about and what they do. The commissioners need to be thinking of ways this

could be done, so it might be discussed at the fall Idaho Women's Commission meeting. During the last Legislative session the IWC women were challenged by JFAC to change the focus of the commission.

The original notebook, presented to the commission women by Terri Bogert needs to be located.

The Agency Strategic Plan was discussed at length. Suggestions and corrections were made.

Farhana Hibbert asked for volunteers to help her at the Hispanic Women's Organization Conference on July 21 -22, 2006 in Pocatello, Idaho.

The IWC fall meeting will be held on October 25, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. in the Department of Finance Conference Room, State Capitol in Room 120.

5:00 pm. The meeting adjourned.

A dinner was then held at Louie's pizza and Italian Restaurant.

Minutes submitted by: Jeanne Wride